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Economic and Social Council

Provisional

27 October 2005

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General segment

Provisional summary record of the 36th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 22 July 2005, at 10 a.m.

President: Mr. Nesho (Vice-President) ..... (Albania)

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Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent *within one week of the date of this document* to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

05-43545 (E)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Nesho (Albania), Vice-President, took the chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Social and human rights questions (*continued*) (E/2005/74, E/2005/CRP.3 and E/2005/Misc.1)

(b) Social development (*continued*) (E/2005/26, Supplement No. 6, and A/60/61-E/2005/7)

1. **Ms. Bowen** (Jamaica), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that at the forty-third session of the Commission for Social Development, attention had been drawn to the mixed results achieved in implementing the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the further initiatives adopted at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, indicating that much remained to be done in some critical areas. National poverty reduction targets and the formulation of poverty eradication plans and strategies had produced uneven results across the regions. Since the Social Summit, there had been a rise in unemployment levels globally and unemployment rates among young people were a source of particular concern. While social exclusion remained a problem in many countries, there was evidence that significant strides had been made in plans and programmes to improve the situation of vulnerable groups, such as disabled persons and the elderly. In that regard, efforts should continue to be made to strengthen modalities for implementing the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and further progress was needed in drafting an international convention on the rights of persons with disabilities. The Group of 77 and China continued to be concerned about the impact of diseases and natural disasters, particularly their potential to undo years of progress towards development.

2. To promote development, it was crucially important to strengthen global partnerships between rich and poor countries. The importance of honouring internationally agreed commitments on Official Development Assistance could also not be overstated. The international community needed to increase its efforts to strengthen national and international mechanisms with a view to the full implementation of the Copenhagen Programme of Action. Reaffirming their commitment to the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and to the further initiatives for social development adopted at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the Group of 77 and China looked forward to seeing the outcome of the Social Summit make a solid contribution to social development.

(e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (*continued*) (E/2005/46 and E/2005/L.17)

3. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution E/2005/L.17, entitled "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

4. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.17 was adopted.*

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(c) International cooperation in the field of informatics (*continued*) (E/2005/67, E/2005/L.33)

5. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution E/2005/L.33, entitled "The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States".

6. **Ms. Sharma** (Secretary of the Council) said that in the last line of paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, the word "free" had been replaced by "unrestricted".

7. **The President** said that it was his understanding that a consensus had been reached on the draft resolution. Accordingly, he took it that the Council wished to adopt it.

8. *Draft resolution E/2005/L.33 was adopted.*

Economic and environmental questions (*continued*)

(c) Statistics (*continued*) (E/2005/24, Supplement No. 4)

9. **The President** drew attention to chapter I of the report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-sixth session (E/2005/24, Supplement No. 4), which contained a draft resolution and a draft decision for adoption by the Council.

10. **Ms. Sharma** (Secretary of the Council) explained that the recommendations contained in the report had no additional programme budget implications. Follow-up activities fell within the regular work programme of

the Statistics Division and would be accommodated within existing resources.

11. **The President** said that the draft resolution entitled "2010 World Population and Housing Census Programme" had been adopted by consensus by the Statistical Commission. He took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

12. *The draft resolution was adopted.*

13. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision entitled "Report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-sixth session and provisional agenda, dates and documentation for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission".

14. *The draft decision was adopted.*

15. **Mr. Kotis** (United States of America) said that the United States had joined in the consensus on the decision taking note of the Statistical Commission's report. The Commission had done admirable work relating on indicators of internationally agreed development goals and should focus on assisting developing countries in building statistical capacity and in improving country data. At the same time, it was his delegation's understanding that the requested report on the ability of countries to produce individual indicators referred to developing countries. On another point, the indicators developed in the document "Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration" (A/56/326) had not been endorsed in an intergovernmental process and his Government objected to some of them. Moreover, some of the indicators in the document could best be developed from data at the national level, while others were reasonably within the purview of international organizations.

(f) Population and development (E/2005/25, Supplement No. 5)

16. **The President** invited the Council to consider the recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-eighth session (E/2005/25, Supplement No. 5).

17. **Ms. Sharma** (Secretary of the Council) said that in paragraph 11 of its resolution 2005/2, the Commission on Population and Development called for the allocation of adequate resources to all areas of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, including the costed package. In that connection, she drew the Council's attention to section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions were the appropriate bodies entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters.

18. **The President** said that chapter 1, section A, of the report contained a draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-eighth session and provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. He took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft decision.

19. *The draft decision was adopted.*

(i) United Nations Forum on Forests (E/2005/42, Supplement No. 22)

20. **The President** invited the Council to consider the recommendations contained in the report entitled "United Nations Forum on Forests" (E/2005/42, Supplement No. 22). Chapter 1, section A, of the report contained a draft resolution entitled "Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifth session and provisional agenda for its sixth session", which had been adopted by consensus by the Forum. He took it that the Council wished to adopt the draft resolution.

21. *The draft resolution was adopted.*

Social and human rights questions (*continued*) (E/2005/74, E/2005/CRP.3 and E/2005/Misc.1)

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice (E/2005/30, Supplement No. 10, E/2005/3 and Add.1)

22. **The President** invited the Council to consider the recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its fourteenth session (E/2005/30, Supplement No. 10).

23. **Ms. Groux** (Observer for Switzerland) recalled that the Third Committee, in an effort to rationalize its work and having noticed that some of the Council's functional commissions routinely transmitted their draft resolutions to the General Assembly for approval, had recommended that only those resolutions requiring

specific action by the General Assembly should be transmitted to the Assembly, rather than to the Council as commissions' the parent body.

24. In the course of their informal discussions on the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, delegations had been conscious of the need not only to improve the Third Committee's working methods but also to assign due importance to the issues under discussion. Accordingly, they had reached the following conclusion: the six resolutions in section A of chapter I of the report should be adopted by the Council, rather than the General Assembly, and therefore included under the heading "Draft resolutions for adoption by the Economic and Social Council" (section B). All the resolutions in chapter I would then be consolidated and renumbered I to X accordingly. The Secretariat could make the necessary technical adjustments in preparing the Council's final report.

25. **The President**, using the new numbering proposed by the observer for Switzerland, invited the Council to adopt draft resolution I, entitled "Model bilateral agreement on the sharing of confiscated proceeds of crime or property covered by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Paragraph 99 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

26. *Draft resolution I was adopted.*

27. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution II, entitled "Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission.

28. *Draft resolution II was adopted.*

29. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution III, entitled "Action against transnational organized crime: protection of witnesses", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 102 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

30. *Draft resolution III was adopted.*

31. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution IV, entitled "International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 100 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

32. *Draft resolution IV was adopted.*

33. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution V, entitled "Action against corruption: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 101 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

34. *Draft resolution V was adopted.*

35. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution VI, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 22 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

36. *Draft resolution VI was adopted.*

37. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution VII, entitled "Guidelines on justice in matters involving child victims and witnesses of crime", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 144 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

38. *Draft resolution VII was adopted.*

39. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution VIII, entitled "Strengthening the technical cooperation capacity of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in the area of the rule of law and criminal justice reform", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission.

40. *Draft resolution VIII was adopted.*

41. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution IX, entitled "Action to promote effective crime prevention", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 145 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

42. *Draft resolution IX was adopted.*

43. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution X, entitled "Strengthening reporting on crime", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 56 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

44. *Draft resolution X was adopted.*

45. **The President** said that chapter 1, section C, of the report contained three draft decisions. He invited the Council to adopt draft decision I, entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission.

46. *Draft decision I was adopted.*

47. **Mr. Kariuki** (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the European Union, the acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia and Turkey, the stabilization and association process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the European Free Trade Area countries members of the European Economic Area Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway and, in addition, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that United Nations standards and norms played a crucial role in the global effort to address both crime prevention and criminal justice issues effectively. The European Union was opposed to the death penalty in all circumstances, believing that it inherently constituted a violation of the right to life and human dignity. It was committed to the universal abolition of capital punishment and welcomed the fact that the international community had excluded its use in establishing international tribunals and the International Criminal Court.

48. The European Union was disturbed, however, to note the continued occurrence of a number of practices that contravened international law and United Nations safeguards, including the retention of capital punishment for crimes other than the most serious crimes; the execution of individuals whose trials and appeals had not been conducted in conformity with article 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the sentencing to death of individuals who had been under the age of 18 at the time of committing their offence; the execution of pregnant women, mothers with dependent infants or persons with mental or intellectual disabilities; and public executions or particularly cruel or inhuman forms of capital punishment, such as stoning. It called upon all countries that had not yet done so to abolish the death penalty and, in the meantime, to impose a moratorium on its use.

49. The resolution put forward by the European Union at the latest session of the Commission on Human Rights had, inter alia, firmly condemned cases in which women were subjected to the death penalty on the basis of gender-discriminatory legislation, policies or practices, as well as the disproportionate use of the death penalty against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

50. The Secretary-General's report highlighted a worrying number of instances in which countries had not complied with United Nations safeguards. The European Union shared the Secretary-General's disappointment at the low response rate from retentionist countries and called on them to provide him with accurate, comprehensive statistics on the number of death sentences imposed, appeals allowed and executions carried out, in order to increase the report's effectiveness.

51. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft decision II, entitled "Round Table for Africa: crime and drugs as impediments to security and development in Africa: strengthening the rule of law", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. Paragraph 19 of the report contained a reference to a financial statement.

52. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

53. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft decision III, entitled "Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its fourteenth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifteenth session", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission.

54. *Draft decision III was adopted.*

(d) Narcotic drugs (E/2005/28, Supplement No. 8 and E/INCB/2004/1)

55. **The President** invited the Council to consider the recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-eighth session (E/2005/28, Supplement No. 8). Chapter I, section A, of the report contained a draft resolution, entitled "Providing support to Afghanistan with a view

to ensuring effective implementation of its Counter-Narcotic Implementation Plan", which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission.

55. *The draft resolution was approved.*

56. **The President** said that chapter I, section B, of the report contained four draft resolutions, which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. He invited the Council to adopt draft resolution I, entitled "Treatment of pain using opioid analgesics".

57. *Draft resolution I was adopted.*

58. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution II, entitled "Demand for and supply of opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs".

59. *Draft resolution II was adopted.*

60. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution III, entitled "International assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs".

61. *Draft resolution III was adopted.*

62. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft resolution IV, entitled "Frequency of meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe".

63. *Draft resolution IV was adopted.*

64. **The President** said that chapter I, section C, of the report contained two draft decisions, which had been adopted by consensus by the Commission. He invited the Council to adopt draft decision I, entitled "Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-eighth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission".

65. *Draft decision I was adopted.*

66. **The President** invited the Council to adopt draft decision II, entitled "Report of the International Narcotics Control Board".

67. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

Coordination, programme and other questions (*continued*)

(f) Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force (*continued*) (E/2005/71, E/2005/L.23)

68. **Ms. Sharma** (Secretary of the Council) said that the words "in particular in light of the ongoing World Summit on the Information Society process" should be inserted after the words "reiterates the need" in paragraph (c) of the draft resolution entitled "United Nations Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force" (E/2005/L.23).

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.

United Nations E/2005/SR.37

Economic and Social Council

Provisional
7 November 2005

Original: English

Substantive session of 2005
General segment

Provisional summary record of the 37th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Friday, 22 July 2005, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Nesho (Vice-President) ..... (Albania)

Contents

Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

(f) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

(g) Human rights

(h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

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05-43548 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m.

Social and human rights questions (*continued*)

(f) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (E/CN.4/2005/16, 17, 20, 21, 22 and 125 and Corr.1)

(g) Human rights (E/2005/22, E/2005/23 (Part I), E/2005/L.34, E/CN.4/2005/L.10 and Add.1 to 17 and E/2005/65)

(h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2005/43)

1. **The President** informed the Council that a corrigendum to the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its sixty-first session (E/2005/23 (Part I)), containing an additional draft decision for action by the Council and based on Commission resolution 2005/62 entitled "Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide", would be issued the following week. Its programme budget implications were contained in document E/2005/L.34. The Council would take action on the draft resolution once it was available in all the official languages.

2. **Mr. N'Diaye** (Director, New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights), introducing the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/2005/65), said that, in her report, the High Commissioner addressed the human rights dimensions of the Millennium Declaration, in particular, the mutually supporting nature of the Millennium Development Goals and the Declaration's human rights commitments. While the Millennium goal process provided an unprecedented opportunity to achieve the human rights of millions of people around the world, human rights provided the comprehensive and universally accepted framework for strategies to achieve the Goals. The High Commissioner devoted a large section of the report to analysing how human rights influenced such strategies, making a distinction between the human rights principles relevant to the process of employing a strategy (non-discrimination, meaningful participation, accountability and monitoring) and the human rights dimensions of the issues addressed by each specific Goal. With regard to the latter, she drew attention to the significant work already undertaken by the various human rights mechanisms. Recalling that the Secretary-General's report entitled "In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all" (A/59/2005) underlined the connection between security, development and human rights, she concluded by highlighting the importance of the Millennium Declaration in strengthening the links between the international community's work on development, and its work on the promotion of human rights. In doing so, she called on the Council explicitly to recognize both the benefits and the obligations that human rights brought to efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals.

3. Turning to the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-second and thirty-third sessions (E/2005/22), he said that, at those sessions, the Committee had considered reports submitted by 10 States parties and draft general comments on the equal right of men and women to the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights set forth in the Covenant (article 3), the right to work (article 6) and the right of a person to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he or she was the author (article 15 (1) (c)). The Committee had also met with the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the open-ended Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights with a view to considering options regarding the elaboration of an optional protocol to the Covenant. The Committee was represented at the Working Group's sessions by one of its members. The Committee had also continued to explore ways of strengthening its cooperation with specialized agencies of the United Nations. For example, the Joint Expert Group of the Committee and UNESCO on the right to education had met during the Committee's thirty-second session, while during its thirty-third session the Committee had held a joint meeting with the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

4. **Mr. Zhang** Yishan (China) said that, while the United Nations had achieved remarkable results in the human rights field, adopting a series of key international human rights instruments and establishing institutional mechanisms to examine human rights situations through the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human

Rights, it was important not to lose sight of the formidable constraints and challenges that remained. While there was a divergence of views as to the content, process and modalities of the proposals in the Secretary-General's report (A/59/2005) aimed at reforming the United Nations human rights machinery, it was universally agreed that the "credibility deficit" of the Commission on Human Rights was cause for concern. There was widespread discontent with the Commission's existing problems of politicization, selectivity and double standards.

5. In his view, reforms must be conducive to objective and fair discussions of human rights issues. Double standards and selectivity had been on the increase in recent years and certain countries had used country-specific resolutions to name and shame developing countries, especially those that did not agree with them or were less compliant. Accusations in the Commission on Human Rights always originated from one group of countries and the accusing finger, like the needle of a compass, never failed to point South. Such practices inevitably gave rise to confrontation and antagonism and undermined the basis for joint efforts to promote human rights. For that reason, at the Commission's 2005 session, a number of countries had put forward proposals aimed at changing the modality of country-specific discussions. Some had proposed eliminating country-specific agenda items, others had proposed establishing thresholds and clear standards for such items, while still others had proposed introducing country-specific resolutions only when widespread and systematic gross human rights violations had occurred and other means had been exhausted. All those proposals merited careful consideration.

6. Under the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, all human rights were universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated. The long-established practice in the Commission of giving priority to civil and political rights over economic, social and cultural rights must therefore be rectified so as to ensure equal treatment of both categories of human rights. Furthermore, since all nations had the right to take part on an equal footing in United Nations activities in the human rights field and the promotion of human rights was the shared aspiration of all humankind, rather than the exclusive preserve of certain individual countries. Any new human rights body must have at least as large a membership as the current Commission and abide strictly by the principle of equitable geographical distribution. The current underrepresentation of the Asian and African countries must be rectified.

7. While his Government had always supported the work of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and was in favour of increasing the resources of the Office of the High Commissioner to enable it to perform its functions better, it also believed that, as a coordinating body for United Nations activities in the human rights field, the Office should give more attention to promoting dialogue, cooperation and communication among Member States and to fostering the capacity-building of developing countries in related areas. China remained ready to participate positively and constructively in consultations and to work with all sides to arrive at a reasonable and just reform programme on the basis of consensus.

8. **Mr. Parshikov** (Russian Federation) said that, without wishing to prejudice the outcome of discussions on the reform of the human rights machinery at the sixtieth session of the General Assembly, his delegation wished to caution against undue haste in reforming the Commission on Human Rights, not because reform was not needed, but because the process was far too serious to engage in reform for reform's sake. The promotion and protection of human rights played a crucial role in the work of the United Nations and acting overhastily or without thorough analysis could exacerbate, rather than solve, problems. Before changing the status of the Commission which the Russian Federation had itself criticized in the past, it was important to analyse all the consequences of such a step, including for the functioning of the Economic and Social Council. Although the Commission's most recent session had been less contentious and politicized than in previous years, it was too early to speak of the reduction in North-South confrontation as a general trend. Like the representative of China, he believed it was necessary to move away from condemnation to dialogue based on equality and mutual respect.

9. A number of important outcomes of the Commission's sixty-first session, in particular the initiative to appoint an independent expert on minority issues, the adoption of resolution 2005/35 entitled "Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law",

the decision to recommend to the Council that a compilation of all the reports submitted to date by the Special Rapporteur of the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on terrorism and human rights should be published as a United Nations publication and the decision to request a new initial version of the pre-draft declaration on human social responsibilities (E/CN.4/2003/105, annex I), would help enhance the international promotion and protection of human rights.

10. His delegation recognized the importance of the outcome document of the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women but considered the increasingly confrontational approach in dealing with communications and the use of gender issues to put political pressure on individual countries to be unacceptable. The Commission should be focusing on the advancement of women. As for the future work of the Working Group on Communications, there were no legal grounds for transferring communications, under the 1503 procedure, from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the Division for the Advancement of Women. The proposal to broaden the Working Group's monitoring mandate by increasing the number of sources of information and giving the Group a mandate to seek clarification from the authors of communications and the corresponding national Governments was unacceptable.

11. His Government viewed positively the visit made by Ms. Ertürk, Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences to Russia in December 2004, during which she had been informed of federal and regional measures to combat violence against women. Turning to the document entitled "Organizational Assessment: UNIFEM Past, Present and Future" (A/60/62), he believed that the recommendations contained therein should be considered by the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board. His delegation stressed the importance of the Declaration adopted at the forty-third session of the Commission for Social Development for providing additional impetus to national Governments in implementing the Copenhagen commitments in conjunction with the Millennium Development Goals. Lastly, his delegation viewed positively the fifth session of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, which had made progress on substantive issues, and therefore opposed suggestions to expedite the conclusion of its work, as that might undermine the quality of the draft Convention and reduce support from interested countries.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourth session (E/2005/43)

12. **The President** invited the Council to take action on the three draft decisions contained in the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its fourth session (E/2005/43).

Draft decision I, entitled "International expert group meeting on the Millennium Development Goals, indigenous participation and good governance" (E/C.19/2005/L.11)

13. **Mr. Khane** (Secretary of the Council) said that an oral statement of programme budget implications concerning draft decision I had been presented at the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. In that statement, the Secretariat had informed the Forum, inter alia, that the need for an additional appropriation of $179,800 (at 2004-2005 rates) to provide conference services to the international expert group meeting called for in the draft decision would be dealt with in accordance with the procedures established in General Assembly resolutions 41/213 and 42/211. The Secretariat had subsequently reviewed the services requested for the proposed meeting and determined that, consistent with established practice, conference services for meetings of that nature would be provided on an "as available" basis. Consequently, the Secretariat wished to inform the Council that there would be no programme budget implications if draft decision I was adopted.

14. *Draft decision I was adopted.*

Draft decision II, entitled "Venue and dates for the fifth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues" (E/C.19/2005/L.12)

15. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

Draft decision III, entitled "Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues" (E/C.19/2005/L.4)

16. *Draft decision III was adopted.*

17. **Ms. Zack** (United States of America) said that the provisional agenda in document E/C.19/2005/L.4 should refer to "internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration". Her delegation wished to emphasize that only some of the goals referred to in item 3 of the provisional agenda and the associated footnote had been agreed by Member States in the Millennium Declaration. Moreover, the indicators contained in the Secretary-General's report entitled "Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration" (A/56/326) had not been endorsed in an intergovernmental process and her delegation objected to some of them. Some of those indicators could be best developed from data at the national level, while others fell reasonably within the purview of international organizations. For those reasons, while her delegation had not requested a vote on draft decision III, it could not subscribe fully to the provisional agenda contained therein.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its sixty-first session (E/2005/23 (Part I))

18. **The President** said that it was his understanding that the Council wished to defer action on the recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Human Rights on its sixty-first session (E/2005/23 (Part I)) until the following week.

19. *It was so decided.*

The meeting rose at 3.55 p.m.